or fail for any reason to call a meeting, the Deputy Commissioner may exercise the powers of a President for that purpose.

(*b*) Twenty-one clear days' notice of a quarterly meeting and fourteen clear days' notice of a special meeting, specifying the time and place at which such meeting is to be held and the business to be transacted thereat, shall be circulated to the members and posted up at the District Board Office. Such notice shall include in the case of a special meeting any motion or proposition mentioned in any written request made for such meeting.

(*c*) If less than one-third of the whole number of members be present at a meeting at any time from the beginning to the end thereof, the presiding authority shall adjourn the meeting to such hour on the following or some other future day as he may reasonably fix; a notice of such adjournment shall be fixed up in the District Board Office and the business which would have been brought before the original meeting, had there been a quorum thereat, shall be brought before the adjourned meeting and may be disposed of at such meeting or at any subsequent adjournment thereof, whether there is a quorum present or not.

(*d*) Every meeting shall be open to the public unless the presiding authority deems any inquiry or deliberation pending before the Board such as should be held in private, and provided that the said authority may at any time cause any person to be removed who interrupts the proceedings.

(*e*) Every meeting shall be presided over by the President, or, if he be absent, by the Vice-President, if any, and if both the President and Vice-President are absent or if the President be absent and there is no Vice-President, by such one of the members present as may be chosen by the meeting to be Chairman for the occasion.

(*f*) All questions shall, unless otherwise specially provided, be decided by a majority of votes of the members present, the President, Vice-President, or Chairman, as the case may be, having a second or casting vote in all cases of equality of votes.

(*g*) No member of a District Board shall vote on, or take part in, the discussion of any question coming up for consideration at a meeting of the Board or any Committee, if the question is one in which, apart from its general application to the public, he has any direct or indirect pecuniary interest.

(*h*) If the presiding authority is believed by the members present at the meeting to have any such pecuniary interest in any matter under discussion, he may, if a motion to that effect be carried, be required to absent himself from the meeting during such discussion.

(*i*) Except with the permission of the presiding authority, which permission shall not be given in the case of a motion or proposition to modify or cancel any resolution within three months after the passing thereof, no business shall be transacted and no proposition shall be discussed at any quarterly meeting unless it has been entered in the notice convening such meeting or, in the case of a special meeting, in the written request for such meeting. The order in which any business or proposition shall be brought forward at such meeting shall be determined by the presiding authority, who in case it is proposed by any member to give priority to any particular item of such business or to any particular proposition, shall put the proposal to the meeting and be guided by the majority of votes given for or against the proposal.

(*j*) Any quarterly meeting may, with the consent of a majority of the members present, be adjourned from time to time; but no business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than that left undisposed of at the meeting from which the adjournment took place.

(*k*) No resolution of a District Board shall be modified or cancelled within three months after the passing thereof, except

by a resolution supported by not less than one-half of the whole number of members and passed at a quarterly or special meeting, whereof notice shall have been given fulfilling the requirements of clause (*b*) and setting forth fully the resolution which it is proposed to modify or cancel at such meeting and the motion or proposition for the modification or cancellation of such resolution.

(3) Minutes shall be kept of the names of the members and of the Government Officers, if any, present under the provisions of Section 35 and of the proceedings at each meeting of the Board, and if any member present at the meeting so desire, of the names of the members voting, respectively, for or against any resolution, in a book to be provided for this purpose, which shall be signed, as soon as practicable, by the President, Vice-President or Chairman of such meeting and shall at all reasonable times be open to inspection by any member of the Board or by any inhabitant of the District.

(4) A copy of every resolution passed by a District Board at a meeting shall, within ten days from the day of the meeting, be forwarded to the Deputy Commissioner, who shall submit the same to the Government with his remarks, if any, and the Government may pass such orders thereon as it may think proper.

Vacancy not to affect proceedings of Board or Committee.

(5) During any vacancy in a District Board or any Committee thereof, the continuing members may act as if no vacancy had occurred.

Interpellations and Resolutions.

30. (1) A member of a District Board may call the attention of the President to any neglect in the execution of the District Board work, to any waste of District Board property, or to the wants of any locality within the District Board area, and may suggest any improvements which may appear desirable.

(2) A member of a District Board may move resolutions and interpellate the President on matters connected with the administration of the Board, subject to such rules as may be made by the Board and the Government in this behalf.

(3) A District Board may, subject to such restrictions and conditions as may be imposed by the Government by rules made in this behalf, pass and submit for the consideration of the Government, resolutions on questions connected with the administration of the District other than those coming within the purview of this Regulation.

Standing Committee.

31. (1) Every District Board shall appoint a Standing Committee consisting of such number of members not being more than 7 and not less than 5 as the Board may determine.

(2) The Standing Committee shall perform the functions allotted to it under this Regulation, and subject to any limitations or other provisions contained in rules made under Section 99 or rules made under Section 29, sub-section (1), shall exercise all the powers and perform all the duties of the Board which have not been delegated to any other Committee.

(3) The President of the District Board shall be *ex-officio* member and Chairman of the Standing Committee in addition to the members appointed under sub-section (1).

Economic Committee.

32. (1) Every District Board shall, subject to such rules as may be framed by itself and the Government in this behalf, appoint a Committee from among its members to be called the Economic Committee, to deal with questions relating to the development of education, agriculture and industries and commerce within the District consisting of such number of members as may be appointed by the Board.

(2) It shall be lawful to the District Board to appoint as a member of the said Committee any person of either sex who is not a member of the Board, but who may, in the opinion of the Board, possess special qualifications for serving on the Committee.

(3) It shall also be lawful for the District Board to appoint temporarily additional members of either sex, whenever necessary, for the consideration of any particular subject or subjects.

Public Health Committee.

33. (1) Every District Board may appoint a Public Health Committee consisting of such members of the Board as the Board may elect. The said members may co-opt the District Medical Officer of the District or any Medical or Sanitary Officer of the Government or a legally qualified Medical Practitioner to be a member of the Committee for a period not exceeding the term of their own office.

(2) When a Public Health Committee is appointed under sub-section (1), it shall, subject to the bye-laws framed by the District Board, perform the duties and exercise the powers of the Board in regard to matters of Public Health and Sanitation and shall give effect to the provisions of this Regulation, and the bye-laws framed thereunder and may delegate any of its duties or powers to any member or honorary or stipendiary Officer of the Board. Such member or officer shall conform to any instructions that may, from time to time, be given by the Board. The Committee may at any time withdraw any of the duties or powers so delegated.

Other Committees.

34. A District Board may appoint Committees consisting of such members as it may decide for any purpose other than those specified in Sections 31, 32 and 33 and may invest each Committee so appointed with such powers as may be necessary or expedient for the fulfilment of the purpose for which it is appointed; and every such Committee, shall cease to exist on completion of the specific purpose for which it is appointed.

Certain Government Officers entitled to attend and speak and District Boards may require officers to furnish advice.

35. The principal Sanitary Officer and the principal Medical Officer of the District, the Senior Surgeon and Sanitary Commissioner, the Veterinary Superintendent and the Assistant Veterinary Superintendent, the Live Stock Expert, the Director of Agriculture, the Deputy Director and Assistant Director of Agriculture, the Executive Engineer, the District Inspector of Schools and the Registrar and Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies shall, if they be not already members, be entitled to attend any meeting of a District Board or of any Committee thereof, and to address such Board or Committee on any matter under discussion affecting their respective departments and shall furnish their advice in such matters whenever called upon to do so.

Mode of executing contracts.

36. (1) The President of a District Board, may, on behalf of the Board, enter into any contract or agreement in such manner and form as according to the law for the time being in force, would bind him if such contract or agreement were on his own behalf: Provided that the amount or value of such contract or agreement shall not exceed five hundred rupees.

(2) Every other contract or agreement on behalf of a District Board shall be in writing, and shall be signed by the President and by two other members of the Board, and sealed with the common seal of the Board.

(3) No contract or agreement not executed as in this section provided shall be binding on a District Board.

District Fund ordinarily liable for all costs and expenses incurred by Boards

37. Except as is hereinafter otherwise provided, no member of a District Board shall be personally liable in respect of any contract or agreement made, or for any expense incurred by, or on behalf of such Board: the District Fund at the disposal of each District Board shall be liable for and be charged with all costs in respect of any such contract or agreement and all such expenses:

But members to be held responsible for misapplied or wasted funds and property.

Provided that every member of a District Board shall be personally liable for the misapplication of any money or other property of the Board, to which he has been a party or which has been caused or facilitated by his misconduct or gross neglect of his duty as a member, and may be sued by the Board concerned with the sanction of the Government or by the Government for the recovery of or compensation for the misapplication of such money or property; and any money or property so recovered by the Government shall after satisfaction therefrom of the necessary expenses of such recovery, be delivered to the District Board.

Power to compromise suits and claims.

38. (1) A District Board may compromise in respect of any suit instituted by or against it, or, in respect of any claim or demand arising out of any contract entered into by it under this Regulation, for such sum of money or other compensation as it shall deem sufficient:

Provided that, if any sanction in the making of any contract is required by this Regulation, the like previous sanction shall be obtained for compromising any claim or demand arising out of such contract.

(2) A District Board may make compensation out of the District Fund to any person sustaining any damage by reason of the exercise of any of the powers vested in it and its officers and servants under this Regulation.

Works to be executed by the Government Executive Engineer.

39. (1) All public works requiring a degree of professional skill not at the disposal of the District Board shall, as a rule, be carried out by the Public Works Department unless specially ordered otherwise by the Government.

Works which may be executed by the Local Board Agency.

(2) All other works of the District Board shall be executed by such agency and subject to such supervision as the District Board thinks fit subject to the rules prescribed by the Government in this behalf.

Provided that any such work shall be executed by the Public Works Department in the manner prescribed in sub-section (1), if the Board communicates a desire to that effect.

Payment of expenses incurred by the Public Works Department.

(3) When any work is executed for a District Board by the Public Works Department, the expenses incurred on the work together with the charges for supervision and tools and plant at such rates as may be fixed by the Government shall unless waived by the Government be payable by the Board to the Public Works Department.

Joint Committee.

40. (1) A District Board may, from time to time, concur with any other District Board or with any Municipal Council or with more than one such Board or Council in appointing, out of their respective bodies, a Joint Committee for any purpose in respect of which they are jointly interested, and in delegating to any such Joint Committee any power which might be exercised by either or any of the Boards or Councils concerned, and in framing or modifying regulations as to the proceedings of any such Joint Committee.

(2) If any dispute arises between two or more local authorities acting under this section, the decision thereon shall rest with the Government.

Provided that the Government may delegate its power under this section to such officer in such matters and to such extent as may be prescribed by rules framed in this behalf.

Acts of Boards, etc., not to be invalidated.

41. No act of a District Board or of any Committee or of any person acting as a member or as a President, Vice-President, or Chairman shall be deemed to be invalid by reason only of some defect in the appointment of such Board, Committee, President, Vice-President, Chairman or member or on the ground that they or any of them were disqualified for such office, or that formal notice of the intention to hold a meeting of the Board or Committee was not duly given or by reason of such act having been done during the period of any vacancy in the office of the President, Vice-President, or member of such Board or Committee or for any other such mere informality.

CHAPTER IV.

PROPERTY AND DUTIES.

Power of District Board to acquire and hold property and to contract.

42. Subject to the rules or orders made by the Government in this behalf consistently with this Regulation, every District Board shall have power to acquire and hold property both movable and immovable, whether within or without the limits of the area over which it has authority, to lease, sell or otherwise transfer any movable or immovable property which